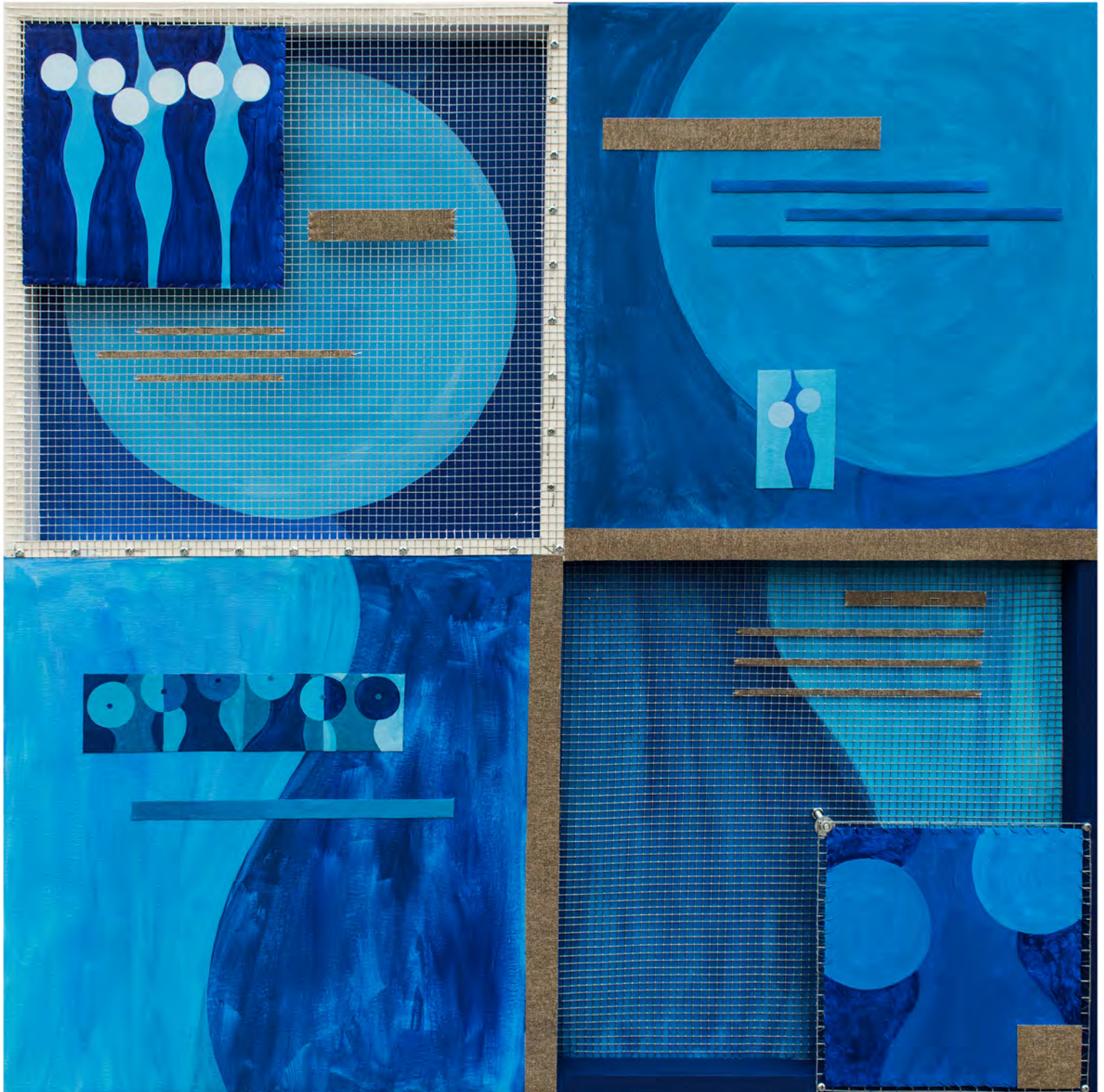


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# Art Revealed magazine

FOUR CHAMBER by Jana Charl







# Dick Evans

## Santa Fe, USA

*I seldom begin a painting with any particular image in mind. I often start by simply loading a brush with a color of paint that appeals to me at that time and making a stroke on the canvas or panel surface. As I react to the form of that stroke, the way it divides the canvas, the weight of the stroke, the emotional impact, I lay down the next stroke, either in the same color or in a different color. The entire painting evolves in that manner; in a series of reactions to the previous collection of actions. Throughout that process the visual and emotional elements that I have collected during my lifetime of observation, as well as, I suspect, elements that are in the genetic evolution of the human species, all play a part in determining each new step.*

*Ultimately my paintings are simply explorations, interpretations and expressions of the world around me and within me.*

*Now, I will say that I do love the New Mexico landscape. I will say also that I love to look at just about any landscape or cityscape or room interior or the food on my plate! That is what I do. All that information is continually filed away, sometimes only reappearing years later. I often don't even remember a particular inspiration when I am painting. Then sometime later I might see something in the landscape that will make me exclaim, "Oh yes, I painted that last year in such and such a painting, something like this must have inspired that work."*

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*Dick Evans was born in the "Land of Enchantment," New Mexico, USA. Having grown up in a rural farming community in the panhandle of Texas, he had no exposure at all to art until he started college. Fortunately he was required to take drawing and design courses as he started his supposed major of architecture. He soon realized architecture was not right for him, but also that he loved ART! As he progressed through an advertising art program at Texas Tech, he realized he was more interested in the Fine Arts, and transferred to a rich art program at the University of Utah, where he obtained a BFA in Drawing and Painting, and went on to obtain an MFA in Ceramics and Sculpture. After completing college, Evans began a university teaching career.*

**Briefly describe the work you do.**

*I do abstract paintings, with lots of gesture and brushstroke and color; loosely based on landscape, or non-objective in their entirety. They are explorations, interpretations and expressions of the world around me and within me..... which are ultimately the same.*

**Tell us a little about your background and how that influences you.**

*I was born and raised in the American Southwest. I have spent a great deal of time outdoors in dramatic landscape. I've always been visually active and have acquired a lifetime of keen observation of the physical and mystical world around me. That storehouse feeds the images that emerge on the canvas in somewhat equal parts*

**What is the most challenging part about working with traditional media?**

*I would say that the most challenging part about working with traditional media is the same as working with any media: make art that is personal, universal and relevant. Medium is far less significant than statement.*

**Name three artists you'd like to be compared to.**

*I am in awe of the compelling mystery in the work of Albert Pinkham Ryder, which I relate loosely to the psychological aspect of the more contemporary artist, Anselm Kiefer. I am intrigued by the remarkable design quality of Milton Avery.*





*And finally, I am forever indebted to the destructive/creative philosophies of the great American ceramist, Peter Voulkos.*

**How would you describe the art scene in your area?**

*It's been said that Santa Fe is the third largest art market in America. My wife (sculptor Susan Stamm Evans) and I decided this was our first choice of a location to pursue our art careers after I left University teaching after twenty years to become a full time artist. The art scene is tremendously diverse, ranging from Native American artists following many generations of tradition, to the latest digital and conceptual expression. My own work is somewhat in between, and there is no shortage of artists working in that area as well.*



**What advice can you give to those who are just starting out in the arts?**

*Work in the studio as much as you can without forsaking time needed to explore the work of other artists and the visual world around you. Take enough time to have fun, to energize the senses. Don't try to figure out what work to do to sell, but rather be willing to work to do what is needed to sell the work you do. Being true to oneself is a cliché for a good reason.*

**What are your future plans?**

*I plan to make my art as long as I feel engaged in the process and feel I am learning something about myself, and the world around me.*



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